

Archived Information

United States Department of Education
OFFICE OF SAFE AND DRUG FREE SCHOOLS

Los Angeles County Office of Education
PRESENTATION OUTLINE
Monday, August 21, 2006

L.A. COUNTY'S DEMOGRAPHICS

- Over 10 million residents
- 80 school districts
- 1,700 K-12 public schools
- 1.7 million students

CHALLENGES / SCHOOL CRIME

- 4,673 drug/alcohol offenses
 - 3,713 batteries
 - 556 assaults with a deadly weapon
 - 3 homicides
 - 449 robbery/extortions
 - 354 sex offenses
 - 1,509 possessions of a weapon
 - 8,608 property crimes
 - \$7.9 million in property loss
- (Source: California Safe Schools Assessment Report 1999-2000)

STREET GANGS

- 1,108 Gangs
 - 79,668 gang members
 - 217 Crip gangs with 17,542 members
 - 74 Blood gangs with 7,254 members
 - 550 Hispanic gangs with 53,121 members
 - 63 Asian gangs with 2,658 members
 - 24 Pacific Islander gangs with 814 members
 - 63 White gangs with 1,044 members
 - 3,774 female gang members
 - 2,604 Taggers
- (Source: Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department)

STREET GANG CRIME

In past 20 years

- 10,000 gang-related killings
- 100,000 serious physical injuries

In 2005

- 553 homicides
- 585 attempted homicides
- 4,313 felony assaults
- 168 attacks on police
- 2,749 robberies
- 428 shots into inhabited dwellings
- 102 kidnappings
- 59 rapes
- 14 arsons
- 687 witness intimidations
- 19 extortions
- 146 carjackings

SCHOOL SAFETY MANDATES

- California Constitution's Article I, Section 28 c

All students and staff have the inalienable right to attend schools that are safe, secure and peaceful.

- California Education Code, Section 35254

All K-12 public schools are mandated to establish Comprehensive School Safety Plans

- California Government Code, Section 8607

All school crisis response plans are required to integrate the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS / NIMS)

- California Student Safety and Violence Prevention Act of 2000

All K-12 public schools are required to establish initiatives to prevent hate motivated behaviors among students and staff on or around the school grounds.

LESSONS LEARNED

- Establish Multi-Agency Safe Schools Coalition

COEs need to lead and share ownership, responsibility and accountability with school, community and law enforcement stakeholders.

- Develop a realistic Countywide Master Plan On School Safety
- Mandate Safe Schools Planning training for all School Safety Teams and provide related support services
- Train School Safety Teams in TABS, teaching alternative behaviors schoolwide, which addresses effective classroom management and student discipline
- COEs must lead, coordinate, monitor and evaluate school safety services.
- To address America's war on terror, COEs must work with local Terrorism Early Warning groups and share intelligence in a timely and secure manner.
- Identify and replicate effective research-based initiatives, such as those in character education and conflict management
- Provide specialized counseling and case management services for selected students and their families
- Engage students and their families in leadership development, after-school recreation and cultural activities
- Provide career and employment services for students and their families
- Design specialized programs to address urgent challenges, such as those posed by street gangs
- Foster positive relationships between students and police officers
- Establish process and outcome evaluation measures

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Modify funding streams and formulas.
Focus on helping high risk and at risk students attending local schools
- Require Master Plan On School Safety.
- Increase funding provided to County Offices of Education (COE).
- Direct COEs to lead, coordinate, monitor and evaluate school safety services.
- To address America's war on terror, require COEs to work with local Terrorism Early Warning groups and share intelligence in a timely and secure manner.
- Direct COEs to lead work of Safe Schools and Healthy Students grants.
- Direct COEs to lead work of the Emergency Response and Crisis Management grants.
- Revive the Community Service Grant Program and direct COEs to lead in addressing related work. This is an alternative to suspension / accountability program.
- Establish new funding stream for the development of gang prevention and intervention programs.
- Establish stronger accountability systems.

